

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SYDNEY 02378 172119Z

64

ACTION VOE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00

DHA-02 ORM-02 CU-04 USIE-00 SSO-00 /018 W

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O 172045Z NOV 75

FM AMCONSUL SYDNEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6580

UNCLAS SYDNEY 2378

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, SREF, AS

SUBJ: TOURIST VISA REQUEST FROM VIETNAM STUDENTS

POST WAS APPROACHED THIS MORNING BY OFFICIALS OF AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AGENCY (ADAA), SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY FOR CUMBO PLAN ASIAN STUDENTS. ADAA REQUESTING B-2 VISAS FOR 17 VIET NAMESE STUDENTS NOW ELIGIBLE FOR BI-ENNIAL VACATIONS. EACH STUDENT HAS COMPLETED 2 YEARS OF 4 YEAR CUMBO PLAN PROGRAM AND IS NOW ELEGIBLE FOR TRAVEL PAID VACATION TO VISIT FAMILIES. LENGTH OF STAY REQUESTED RANGE FROM 6 WEEKS TO 2 MONTHS AND 20 DAYS. ALL TICKETS HAVE BEEN GUARANTEED BY ADAA WITH MOST APPLICANTS PAYING INITIAL AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS 600.00 TO BE REIMBURSED UPON RETURN. APPLICANTS HAVE BEEN ISSUED NON-REFUNDABLE TICKETS FOR EXACT TIME THEY INTEND SPEND IN U.S. SOME STUDENTS HAVE PREVIOUSLY INQUIRED ABOUT FAMILIES IN U.S. HOWEVER, NONE RPT NONE HAVE REQUESTED REFUGEE STATUS AT THIS TIME. ADAA AND CONGEN HAVE ADVISED STUDENTS THAT SINCE ENTIRE COST THEIR UNIVERSITY EDUCATION GUARANTEED BY CUMBO PLAN THEY FAR BETTER OFF REMAINING AUSTRALIA FULL FOUR YEARS AND OBTAINING DEGREE HERE. SEVERAL HAVE INDICATED INTEREST IN JOINING REFUGEE FAMILIES IN TWO OR THREE YEARS AFTER DEGREES OBTAINED.

ALL APPLICANTS HAVE BEEN GRANTED AUSTRALIAN IDENTITY DOCUMENTS AND RE-ENTRY PERMITS VALID UP TO FIVE DAYS PRIOR COMMENCEMENT SECOND HALF CUMBO PROGRAM, NOT LATER THAN 3/3/75.

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ADAA OFFICIALS INFORM US THAT INASMUCH AS STUDENTS TRAVELING

ON SPECIAL STUDENT RATE TICKETS, THEY STAND LOSE AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS 600.00 PERSONAL FUNDS IF THEY DO NOT TRAVEL ON DATES SPECIFIED.

THREE FOR 11/24; ONE FOR 11/30; THREE FOR 12/10; ONE FOR 12/19; THREE FOR 12/24; ONE FOR 12/26; FIVE, DEPARTURE DATES NOT YET FIRM.

CONVERSATIONS WITH ADAA AND UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS LEND CREDENCE TO APPLICANTS CLAIM THEY DO NOT INTEND REMAIN U.S. AND FORFEIT CHANCE FOR FREE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION. POST ALSO AWARE RISK INVOLVED POSSIBLE ATTEMPT ADJUST STATUS. TAKING ACCOUNT ALL FACTORS, POST BELIEVES RISK WORTH TAKING AS OPPOSED HEAVY ADVERSE PUBLICITY WHICH WOULD RESULT MASS REFUSAL, PARTICULARLY AT THIS TIME OF HIGH TENSION ACADEMIC COMMUNITY AS RESULT UP-COMING GENERAL ELECTION.

VIEW SHORT TIME ALLOWED US BY ADAA AUTHORITIES, 11/24 ANTICIPATED DEPARTURE FIRST THREE APPLICANTS, POST URGENTLY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS.
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Disposition Authority: n/a
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